

RX.PA.030.MPC RITUXIMAB PRODUCTS

The purpose of this policy is to define the prior authorization process for non-oncologic indications for Rituximab products Riabni (rituximab-arrx), Rituxan (rituximab), Rituxan Hycela (rituximab and hyaluronidase human), Ruxience (rituximab-PVVR), and Truxima (rituximab-abbs).

Eviti reviews prior authorization requests for all oncology related indications for Rituximab products.

Rituxan is indicated for:

- Autoimmune hemolytic anemia
- B-cell lymphoma
- Burkitt's lymphoma, In combination with chemotherapy
- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination for first-line treatment
- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, Maintenance, following rituximab-containing chemotherapy
- Graft-versus-host disease, chronic, Steroid-refractory
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
- Mantle cell lymphoma, Maintenance, following first-line induction therapy
- Mantle cell lymphoma, Untreated, induction therapy, in combination with anthracycline-based regimens
- Microscopic polyarteritis nodosa, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Myasthenia gravis, Refractory
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Diffuse, large B-cell, CD20-positive, in combination for first-line treatment
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell, in combination with first-line chemotherapy & as single-agent maintenance
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Low-grade, CD20-positive, B-cell, stable or responsive to prior CVP (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone) chemotherapy
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Relapsed or refractory, low-grade or follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell
- Pemphigus vulgaris (Moderate to Severe)
- Philadelphia chromosome-negative precursor B-cell acute lymphoblastic

leukemia, CD20-positive, in combination with chemotherapy

- Primary Sjögren's syndrome
- Rheumatoid arthritis, In combination with methotrexate, in patients with an inadequate response to methotrexate
- Rheumatoid arthritis (Moderate to Severe), In combination with methotrexate, in patients who had an inadequate response to one or more tumor-necrosis-factor antagonist therapies
- Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia

Rituxan Hycela is indicated for:

- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
- Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, In combination with first-line treatment
- Follicular lymphoma, In combination with first-line chemotherapy & as single-agent maintenance
- Follicular lymphoma, Relapsed or refractory
- Follicular lymphoma, Stable or responsive to prior CVP (cyclophosphamide, 2egener2ne2, and 2egener2ne) chemotherapy

Ruxience is indicated for:

- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Microscopic polyarteritis nodosa, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Diffuse, large B-cell, CD20-positive, in combination with anthracycline-based chemotherapy for first-line treatment
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell, in combination with first-line chemotherapy and as single-agent maintenance
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Low-grade, CD20-positive, B-cell, non-progressing (including stable) after first-line CVP (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone) chemotherapy
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Relapsed or refractory, low-grade or follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell

Truxima is indicated for:

- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Microscopic polyarteritis nodosa, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Diffuse, large B-cell, CD20-positive, in combination with anthracycline-based chemotherapy for first-line treatment
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell, in combination with first-line chemotherapy and as single-agent maintenance
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Low-grade, CD20-positive, B-cell, non-progressing

(including stable) after first-line CVP (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone) chemotherapy

- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Relapsed or refractory, low-grade or follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell
- Rheumatoid arthritis (Moderate to Severe), In combination with methotrexate, in patients who had an inadequate response to one or more tumor-necrosis-factor antagonist therapies

Riabni is indicated for:

- Chronic lymphoid leukemia, In combination with fludarabine and cyclophosphamide
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis, In combination with glucocorticoids
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Diffuse, large B-cell, CD20-positive, in combination with anthracycline-based chemotherapy for first-line treatment
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell, in combination with first-line chemotherapy and as single-agent maintenance
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Low-grade, CD20-positive, B-cell, non-progressing (including stable) after first-line CVP (cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone) chemotherapy
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Relapsed or refractory, low-grade or follicular, CD20-positive, B-cell
- Rheumatoid arthritis (Moderate to Severe), In combination with methotrexate, in patients who had an inadequate response to one or more tumor-necrosis-factor antagonist therapies

Although similar in certain aspects, it is important to understand that Rituxan, Rituxan Hycela, Ruxience, Truxima and Riabni are unique products that are not interchangeable.

DEFINITIONS

N/A

POLICY

It is the policy of the Health Plan to maintain a prior authorization process that promotes appropriate utilization of specific drugs with potential for misuse or limited indications. This process involves a review using Food and Drug Administration (FDA) criteria to make a determination of Medical Necessity, as defined in CRM.015-Medical Necessity, and approval by the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee of the criteria for prior authorization, as described in RX.003-Prior Authorization Process.

The drugs, Riabni (rituximab-arrx), Rituxan (rituximab), Rituxan Hycela (rituximab and hyaluronidase human), Ruxience (rituximab-PVVR), and Truxima (rituximab-abbs) are subject to the prior authorization process.

A. CLINICAL CRITERIA (Use for ALL Drug Requests)

Must meet all of the clinical criteria listed under the respective drug product:

1. Rheumatoid Arthritis

- Must be prescribed by a rheumatologist
- Must be age 18 years or older
- Must have a diagnosis of moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis
- Must have an adequate trial (of at least 3 months) of methotrexate with an inadequate response, unless contraindicated
- Must have an adequate trial (of at least 3 months) of Enbrel® and Humira with inadequate response, significant side effects/toxicities, or have a contraindication to this therapy.
- Must be on concurrent methotrexate or leflunomide therapy
- Must currently not be using a TNF-blocking agent or other biologic agents in combination with Rituxan®
- Must currently not have progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) or have a history of PML
- Must have no evidence of severe, active infection

2. Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (GPA)/Wegener's Granulomatosis (WG) and Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA)

- Must be prescribed by a rheumatologist
- Must be age 2 years or older
- Must have a diagnosis of Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis/Wegener's Granulomatosis or Microscopic Polyangiitis
- Must currently not have PML or have a history of PML
- For induction therapy, must be on concomitant therapy with glucocorticoids
- For maintenance therapy, must have an adequate trial (of at least 3 months) of azathioprine or methotrexate with an inadequate response or significant side effects/toxicity or have a contraindication to these therapies
- Must have no evidence of severe, active infection

3. Renal and/or Pancreatic Transplant Desensitization in Combination with IVIG

- Must be prescribed by a transplant specialist
- Must be age 18 years or older
- Must currently not have PML or have a history of PML
- Must be awaiting kidney and/or pancreas transplant requiring desensitization as

defined by:

- For deceased donor transplants, must have one of the following:
 - Panel reactive antibody (PRA) level >30%
 - PRA <30% with a previous kidney and/or pancreas transplant
- For living donor transplants, must have the following:
 - Positive crossmatch
 - Positive donor-specific antibody using Luminex® assay

4. Oncology

******All prior authorization requests for an oncology indication needs to be forwarded to Eviti for review******

5. Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV)

- Must have a diagnosis of biopsy-proven moderate to severe pemphigus vulgaris
- Must be prescribed by a dermatologist
- Must be age 18 years or older
- Must currently not have PML or have a history of PML
- Must have an adequate trial of at least one of the following with an inadequate response or significant side effects/toxicity or have a contraindication to these therapies
 - Immunosuppressants (such as azathioprine or methotrexate)
 - Corticosteroids
- In rapidly progressive, extensive, or debilitating cases (i.e. Stevens Johnson Syndrome), Rituxan may be approved along with corticosteroids or immunosuppressive agents

B. Must be prescribed at a dose within the manufacturer's dosing guidelines (based on diagnosis, weight, etc) listed in the FDA approved labeling.

C. Rituximab products will be considered investigational or experimental for any other use and will not be covered.

D. Reauthorization Criteria:

All prior authorization renewals are reviewed to determine the Medical Necessity for the continuation of treatment. Authorization is extended as specified below:

MPC Renewal:

1. Rheumatoid Arthritis:

- For an additional course of treatment, based upon review of documentation from the prescriber indicating that the member's condition has improved as a result of therapy. Authorization is not granted until 16 weeks has passed since the previous treatment.

2. Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis/Wegener's Granulomatosis and Microscopic Polyangiitis:

- For an additional 6 months, based upon review of documentation from the prescriber indicating that the member is continuing to benefit from treatment.

3. Renal and/or Pancreatic Desensitization Candidates:

- For an additional course of treatment (with the above regimen) if the member has not yet received a renal and/or pancreatic transplant. Authorization is not granted until 6 months have passed since the initial treatment.

4. Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV)

- For an additional course of treatment, based upon review of documentation from the prescriber indicating that the member's condition has improved as a result of therapy. Authorization is not granted until 12 months has passed since the initial treatment and 6 months for every subsequent treatment after the second treatment course.

Non-MPC Renewal:

- Members who have previously been taking the requested drug and are requesting a non-MPC renewal should be considered under criterion A (Initial Authorization Criteria)
- Member has not been receiving medication samples for the requested drug; AND
- Provider has documented clinical response of the member's condition which has stabilized or improved based upon the prescriber's assessment

Limitations:

Length of Authorization (if above criteria met)	
Initial Authorization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RA and PV: 1 course of treatment (two 1000mg doses given on day 1 and 15)• WG and MPA: 1 month• Transplant Desensitization: 1 course of treatment (one 1000mg dose given on day 15)
Reauthorization	Same as initial

CPT Codes:

J-Code	Description
J9312	Injection, rituximab, 10mg
Q5119	Injection, rituximab-pvvr, biosimilar, (ruxience), 10 mg
Q5115	Injection, rituximab-abbs, biosimilar, (truxima), 10mg

Q5123	Injection, rituximab-arrx, biosimilar, (riabni), 10 mg
J9311	Injection, rituximab, 10mg and hyaluronidase

REFERENCES

1. Panayi GS, Hainsworth JD, Looney RJ, Keystone EC. Panel discussion on B cells and rituximab: mechanistic aspects, efficacy and safety in rheumatoid arthritis and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. *Rheumatology*. 44 Suppl 2:ii18-ii20, 2005 May.
2. Rastetter W, Molina A, White CA. Rituximab: expanding role in therapy for lymphomas and autoimmune diseases. *Annual Review of Medicine*. 55:477-503, 2004.
3. Rituxan package insert. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc; September 2019.
4. Saag KG, Teng GG, Patkar NM et al. American college of rheumatology 2008 recommendations for the use of nonbiologic and biologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs in rheumatoid arthritis. *Arthritis Rheum* 2008;59(6):762-784.
5. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network/Scientific Registry for Transplant Recipients. 2007 Annual Report: Transplant Data 1997-2006. http://www.ustransplant.org/annual_reports/archives/2007/default.htm. (accessed 18 November 2009).
6. Jordan SC, Pescovitz MD. Presensitization: the problem and its management. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 2006;1:421-32.
7. Jordan SC, Tyan D, Stablein D, et al. Evaluation of intravenous immune globulin as an agent to lower allo-sensitization and improve transplantation in highly sensitized adult patients with end-stage renal disease: report of the NIH IG02 trial. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 2004;15:3256-62.
8. Mulley WR, Hudson FJ, Tait BD, et al. A single low-fixed dose of rituximab to salvage renal transplants from refractory antibody-mediated rejection. *Transplantation* 2009;87:286-9.
9. Kaposztas Z, Podder H, Maiyyedi S, et al. Impact of rituximab therapy for treatment of acute humoral rejection. *Clin Transplant* 2009;23:63-73.
10. Fehr T, Rusi B, Fischer A, et al. Rituximab and intravenous immunoglobulin treatment of chronic antibody-mediated kidney allograft rejection. *Transplantation* 2009;87:1837-41.
11. Vo AA, Luvosky M, Toyoda M, et al. Rituximab and intravenous immune globulin for desensitization during renal transplantation. *N Engl J Med* 2008;359:242-51.
12. Gloor JM, DeGoey SR, Pineda AA, et al. Overcoming a positive crossmatch in living-donor kidney transplantation. *Am J Transplant* 2003;3:1017-23.
13. Yoon HE, Hyung BJ, Hwang HS, et al. Successful renal transplantation with desensitization in highly sensitized patients: a single center experience. *J Korean Med Sci* 2009;24(Suppl 1): S148-55.
14. Kim SM, Lee C, Lee JP, et al. Kidney transplantation in sensitized recipients: a single center experience. *J Korean Med Sci* 2009;24(Suppl 1): S143-7.

15. Lee R, Peng A, Villicana R, et al. Rates of acute rejection (AR) and treatment outcomes in highly-HLA sensitized patients (HS) transplanted after desensitization with IVIG + rituximab. *Am J Transplant* 2008;8:238. Abstract.
16. Amante AJ, Ejercito R. Management of highly sensitized patients: Capitol Medical Center experience. *Transplant Proceed* 2008;40:2274-80.
17. Stegall MD, Gloor J, Winters JL, et al. A comparison of plasmapheresis versus high-dose IVIG desensitization in renal allograft recipients with high levels of donor specific alloantibody. *Am J Transplant* 2006;6:346-51.
18. Vo AA, Cao K, Lai C, et al. Long term outcomes of highly-HLA sensitized patients receiving desensitization with IVIG and single-dose rituximab. Abstract presented at American Transplant Congress, Boston, MA; 2009 June 1.
19. Vo AA, Cao K, Lai C, et al. Characteristics of patients who developed antibody mediated rejection post-transplant after desensitization with IVIG + rituximab: analysis of risk factors & outcomes. Abstract presented at American Transplant Congress, Boston, MA; 2009 June 2.
20. Vo AA, Toyoda M, Ge S, et al. Long term outcomes of deceased donor transplants in highly-HLA sensitized patients desensitized with IVIG + single-dose rituximab. Abstract presented at American Transplant Congress, Boston, MA; 2009 June 1.
21. Peng A, Villicana R, Vo A, et al. Long term (1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 year) outcomes of desensitization of highly-HLA sensitized patients awaiting deceased donor transplantation. Abstract presented at American Transplant Congress, Boston, MA; 2009 June 2.
22. Kamar N, Milioto O, Puissant-Lubrano B, et al. Incidence and predictive factors of infectious disease after rituximab therapy in kidney-transplant patients. *Am J Transplant* 2009;9:1-10.
23. Stone JH, Merkel PA, Spiera R, et al. Rituximab versus cyclophosphamide for ANCO-associated vasculitis. *N Engl J Med* 2010;363:221-32
24. White ES, Lynch JP. Pharmacologic treatment for Wegener's granulomatosis. *Drug* 2006;66(9):1209-1225
25. Chung SA, Seo P. Microscopic polyangiitis. *Rheum Dis Clin N Am* 2010;36:545-558
26. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Version 2.2012
27. Singh JA, Saag KG, Bridges SL, Akl EA, Bannuru RR, Sullivan MC, Vaysbrot E, McNaughton C, Osani M, Shmerling RH, Curtis JR, Furst DE, Parks D, Kavanaugh A, O'Dell J, King C, Leong A, Matteson E, Schousboe JT, Drevlow B, Ginsberg S, Grober J, St. Clair EW, Tindall E, Miller AS and McAlindon T (2016), 2015 American College of Rheumatology Guideline for the Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis. *Arthritis & Rheumatology*, 68: 1–26
28. Pendergraft WF, Cortazar FB, Wenger J, et al. Long-term maintenance therapy using rituximab induced continuous B-cell depletion in patients with ANCA vasculitis. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol*. 2014; 9: 736-744.
29. Charles P, Neel A, Tieulie N, et al. Rituximab for induction and maintenance treatment of ANCA-associated vasculitides: a multicenter retrospective study

- on 80 patients. Rheumatology.2014; 53: 532-539.
30. Guillevin L, Pagnoux C, Karras A, et al. Rituximab versus azathioprine for maintenance in ANCA-associated vasculitis [MAINRITSAN Trial]. N Engl J Med. 2014; 371: 1771-80.
- 26.30. Lopalco G, Rigante D, Venerito V, et al. Management of small vessel vasculitides. Curr Rheumatol Rep. 2016; 18: 36.
31. Rituxan Hycela [package insert]. South San Francisco, CA: Genentech, Inc.; April 2018.
32. Ruxience [package insert]. New York, NY: Pfizer; July 2019.
33. Truxima [package insert]. North Wales, PA: Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc; December 2019.
34. Riabni [package insert]. Thousand Oaks, CA: Amgen, Inc; June 2022.

REVIEW HISTORY

DESCRIPTION OF REVIEW / REVISION	DATE APPROVED
<i>Annual Review</i>	<i>02/2023</i>
<i>Selected Revision Addition of MPC vs Non-MPC Renewal</i>	<i>10/2022</i>
<i>Annual Review</i>	<i>02/2022</i>
<i>Addition of dosing requirements and off-label restrictions</i>	<i>12/2021</i>
<i>New Policy</i>	<i>11/2020</i>